UNITED

July 28, 2024 *Ephesians 4:1-7*

4 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

I. ORIGINS OF UNITY

- A. Jesus Breaks the Wall between Us and God Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. Ephesians 2.12
- B. Jesus Breaks the Walls between One Another For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, Ephesians 2.14

II. THEMES ON UNITY

A. Not the Absence of Differences

B. Embracing Differences

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:11-12

- C. Organic Unity
- D. Commitment
- III. UNITY LIVED OUT